

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 MANILA 09242 071052Z

46

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-01 SS-07 NSC-06 /024 W

----- 073741

R 070947Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5172

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 9242

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP: MATSUNAGA, SPARK M.

SUBJECT: CODEL MATSUNAGA'S VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES

SUMMARY: CODEL MATSUNAGA ACCOMPANIED BY STAFDEL CHEN VISITED THE PHILIPPINES JULY 3 AND 4 (CHEN REMAINED UNTIL JULY 6). CODEL SPENT 2 HOURS WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS AND SIMILAR TIME WITH OPPOSITION. HE MADE A TRIP TO ZAMBALES AND PAMPANGA TO INSPECT AID PROJECTS IN COMPANY OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MELCHOR AND VISITED HOME FOR AGED NEAR MANILA. CODEL MADE ADDRESS AT EMBASSY FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION AND ATTENDED CHARGE'S DINER IN HIS HONOR. CODEL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH HIS SHORT AND SOMEWHAT HECTIC VISIT TO PHILIPPINES. END SUMMARY.

1. CODEL MATSUNAGA, ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN POLICY ASSISTANT DR. CHEN, ARRIVED IN MANILA EARLY AFTERNOON JULY 3. CODEL MET BRIEFLY WITH CHARGE AND SENIOR MEMBERS OF COUNTRY TEAM. HE EXPLAINED PRINCIPAL PURPOSE IN VISITING PHILIPPINES WAS TO HAVE EXPOSURE TO WHAT WAS GOING ON HERE SO THAT HE COULD BE MORE RESPONSIVE TO CONCERNS OF HIS CONSTITUENTS WHO ARE OF FILIPINO ANCESTRY. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH CHARGE CODEL RAISED TWO ISSUES:

(A) COMPLAINTS BY CONSTITUENTS THAT THEIR RELATIVES ARE NOT RECEIVING CHECKS SENT TO THEM FROM HAWAII. POSTAL PROBLEM WAS SUBSEQUENTLY RAISED WITH MARCOS WHO DIRECTED POSTMASTER GENERAL TO LOOK INTO MATTER. DR. CHEN FOLLOWED UP ON IT WITH GOP POSTAL OFFICIALS DIRECTED BY PRESIDENT AND POSTMASTER GENERAL TO MEET WITH HIM JULY 5.

(B) COMPLAINT THAT TAX SETUP HERE HAS MADE IT VERY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 09242 071052Z

DIFFICULT FOR US CITIZEN RETIREES TO LIVE. CODEL ACCEPTED EXPLANATION THAT GOP'S MORE STRINGENT TAX COLLECTION IS

PROBABLY REASON WHY RETIREES ARE COMPLAINING AND THAT MOST OF THEM PROBABLY HAD NOT PAID TAXES PREVIOUSLY. CODEL THEN VISITED CONSULAR SECTION, WHERE HE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO SPARK WITH SMALL GROUP OF BALIKBAYANS AND SEVERAL INTENDING IMMIGRANTS PLANNING TO LIVE IN HAWAII. BALIKBAYANS, WHO WERE CHOSEN AT RANDOM, WERE GENERALLY PARTISANS OF PRESIDENT MARCOS.

3. CODEL NEXT VISITED GOLDEN ACRES REHABILITATION HOME IN QUEZON CITY, WHICH IS PROJECT OF FIRST LADY. HE WAS MET BY UNDERSECRETARY OF WELFARE AND GIVEN TOUR OF FACILITY WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS IMPRESSIVE.

4. CODEL, ACCOMPANIED BY CHEN AND EMBOFF, THEN VISITED HOME OF SENATOR SALONGA FOR 2 AND HALF HOUR DISCUSSION. OTHERS PRESENT INCLUDED SENATORS TANADA, ROXAS AND RODRIGO, MRS. AQUINO, AND CHINO ROCES. OPPOSITION PRESENTED STANDARD ARGUMENTS ON MARCOS SEIZURE OF POWER, ILLEGAL TENURE IN OFFICE, PERSONAL CORRUPTION, AND SUCCESSION PROBLEM. SENATOR SALONGA WARNED THAT US WOULD EVENTUALLY HAVE TO PAY VERY HIGH PRICE FOR SUPPORT IT NOW PROVIDING MARCOS. CODEL ASKED RELATIVELY FEW QUESTIONS BUT AT CONCLUSION OF SESSION SAID THAT AS A LAWYER HE FOUND ARGUMENTS OF LAWYERS MOST CONVINCING.

5. ON JULY 4 CODEL ACCOMPANIED PRES. MARCOS AND SECRETARIES ENRILE AND PATERNO AND GENERAL ESPINO AROUND GOLF COURSE AND HAD BREAKFAST WITH THEM. EMBASSY UNABLE TO DEBRIEF CODEL BEFORE HE DEPARTED COUNTRY BUT STAFDEL CHEN STATED MOST OF CONVERSATION HE COULD HEAR ON GOLF COURSE DEVOTED TO PLEASNTIES. AT BREAKFAST CODEL TOLD MARCOS THAT ONE QUESTION HE MUST ASK ON BEHALF OF HIMSELF AND MANY OTHER CONGRESSMEN WAS "HOW LONG?" MARCOS REPLY WAS APPARENTLY NOT VERY MUCH TO POINT WITH PRESIDENT DETAILING VARIOUS CONSIDERATIONS WHICH HAD LED HIM TO INSTITUTE MARIAL LAW. IN RESPONSE TO STAFDELL QUESTION ON BASE, MARCOS STATED FLATLY THAT HE WISHED US TO REMAIN IN REGION AND HAVE USE OF BASES BUT THEY HAD TO BE "FILIPINO."

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANILA 09242 071052Z

6. AFTER REMARKS AT EMBASSY FOURTH OF JULY CEREMONY, CODEL, ESCORTED BY USAID DIRECTOR, ACCOMPANIED EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MELCHOR ON FLYING TRIP TO VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN ZAMBALES AND PAMPANGA. HE VISITED EQUIPMENT POOL, BRIDGE, IRRIGATION PROJECT, ETC. CODEL COMMENTED HE FOUND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS MOST IMPRESSIVE. CODEL DEPARTED MANILA FOR HAWAII JULY 4 ABOUT 6 P.M.

7. STAFDEL CHEN WAS DEBRIEFED BY CHARGE, A/DCM, AND POL COUNSELOR MORNING JULY 5. DURING AFTERNOON HE VISITED

CHINATOWN TO FOLLOW UP ON CONTACTS SUGGESTED BY FOREIGN
MINISTRY TAIPEI. STAFDEL ATTENDED LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF
DEPARTING ROC INFORMATION COUNSELOR JULY 6, WHERE HE HAD
OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH LEADING CHINESE BUSINESSMEN IN
MANILA AND BE BRIEFED ON CONFLICT BETWEEN PRO-PEKING AND
PRO-TAIWAN ELEMENTS IN LOCAL CHINESE COMMUNITY. CHEN DE-
PARTED FOR HONG KONG 1820 JULY 6. PURNELL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANILA09242
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750233-0781
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750781/aaaacukc.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL MATSUNAGA'S VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES SUMMARY: CODEL MATSUNAGA ACCOMPANIED BY STAFDEL CHEN VISITED
TAGS: OREP, (MATSUNAGA, SPARK M)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006